

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRASIL 04122 211218Z
ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 IO-13 DHA-02 INSE-00 SCA-01
VO-03 CIAE-00 SP-02 EUR-12 L-03 /045 W
-----211226Z 122847 /45

R 211100Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1764
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 4122

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SREF,BR, AR, US
SUBJ: UNHCR REQUEST FOR US PAROLE PROGRAM GEARED TO ARGENTINE
POLITICAL REFUGEES IN BRAZIL

REF: A. BUENOS AIRES 3011 (NOTAL) B. BUENOS AIRES 3096
(NOTAL) C. BRASILIA 3483

1. EMBOFFS MET MAY 19 WITH GUY PRIM, OF THE UNHCR REGIONAL OFFICE IN BUENOS AIRES. PRIM RECENTLY ARRIVE D IN BRAZIL (AT GOB REQUEST) ON THREE MONTHS' TDY TO SET UP A TEMPORARY UNHCR OFFICE IN RIO AND ASSIST IN COPING WITH THE INCREASED UNHCR CASELOAD OF ARGENTINE REFUGEES IN BRAZIL (SEE REFTELS). HE WAS IN BRASILIA AT THE REQUEST OF FONMIN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DEPARTMENT CHIEF BAENA SOARES, FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THE REFUGEE ISSUE.

2. PRIM INDICATED THAT BAENA SOARES AND OTHER GOB OFFICIALS HAD CONVEYED A SENSE OF URGENCY TO THE RESOLUTION OF THE REFUGEE PROBLEM (I.E., THROUGH THIRD-COUNTRY RESETTLEMENT). ACCORDING TO PRIM, FONMIN IS UNDER HEAVY PRESSURE FROM JUSTICE MINISTRY TO COME UP WITH A SOLUTION. LINKED TO THIS IS FACT
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PAGE 02 BRASIL 04122 211218Z

THAT GOB HAS ISSUED NO TEMPORARY DOCUMENTATION TO REFUGEES COVERING THEIR PRESENCE HERE BEYOND THE EXPIRATION OF NORMAL TOURIST VISAS (THREE MONTHS, RENEWABLE FOR THREE MONTHS). SOME HAVE NOW BEEN IN BRAZIL FOR AS LONG AS ONE YEAR.

3. UNHCR IS THUS ANXIOUS TO REGISTER SOME PROGRESS IN

PLACEMENT OF REFUGEES, IN ORDER TO REASSURE GOB AND FORESTALL ANY PRESSURES FOR AN ABRUPT SOLUTION THROUGH EXPLUSION OF REFUGEES TO OTHER COUNTRIES. IN THIS CONNECTION, PRIM RECENTLY HAS CALLED ON THE EMBASSIES HERE OF A NUMBER OF WESTERN EUROPEAN AND SOUTH AMERICAN STATES, PLUS YUGOSLAVIA, REQUESTING ACCEPTANCE OF SOME REFUGEES FOR RESETTLEMENT. (CONTACT WITH CUBA IS BEING HANDLED THROUGH THE UNHCR OFFICE IN BUENOS AIRES.)

4. WITH REGARD TO THE US, PRIM RECALLED EARLIER PAROLE PROGRAMS IN PERU (APPROXIMATELY 100 SLOTS) AND ARGENTINA (175 SLOTS), AND REQUESTED THAT THE USG CONSIDER ESTABLISHMENT OF A PAROLE PROGRAM IN BRAZIL TO HANDLE 40-50 ARGENTINE POLITICAL REFUGEES (FIGURE INCLUDES DEPENDENTS). TOTAL UNHCR CASELOAD HERE NOW TOTALS APPROXIMATELY 175 PERSONS, SPLIT ABOUT EQUALLY BETWEEN RIO DE JANEIRO AND SAO PAULO. (PRIM, INCIDENTALLY, BELIEVES THAT THERE ARE MANY MORE POLITICAL REFUGEES IN BRAZIL WHO SO ARE HAVE NOT SOUGHT UNHCR ASSISTANCE.)

5. ACCORDING TO PRIM, BRAZIL HAS NO RPT NO BINDING LEGAL OBLIGATION TOWARDS THE ARGENTINES. THOUGH A SIGNATORY AND RATIFYING STATE OF BOTH THE 1951 REFUGEE CONVENTION AND THE 1967 PROTOCOL, BRAZIL EXERCISED ITS OPTION UNDER ARTICLE I (B) OF THE CONVENTION TO LIMIT THE DEFINITION OF REFUGEES TO THOSE FLEEING FROM EVENTS IN EUROPE, NOT REPEAT NOT WORLDWIDE.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST DEPARTMENT PROVIDE EMBASSY
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PAGE 03 BRASIL 04122 211218Z

WITH GUIDANCE IN RESPONDING TO UNHCR REQUEST FOR
USG ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ARGENTINE REFUGEE PAROLE PROGRAM
IN BRAZIL.
CRIMMINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES, PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS, ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BRASIL04122
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770181-1256
Format: TEL
From: BRASILIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770532/aaaabbne.tel
Line Count: 101
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a8f0c58c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ORM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BUENOS AIRES 3011, 77 BUENOS AIRES 3096
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2424384
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNHCR REQUEST FOR US PAROLE PROGRAM GEARED TO ARGENTINE POLITICAL REFUGEES IN BRAZIL
TAGS: SREF, SHUM, OVIP, AORG, BR, AR, US, UNHCR, (PRIM, GUY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a8f0c58c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009